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Robert V. Sherer to James H. Meredith (1 October 1962)

Robert V. Sherer

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Answered 11/26/62 ✓

Oct. 1, 1962

Dear James H. Meredith:

I have been reading the papers with great interest, about your problem of getting into the University of Mississippi.

It is a terrible shame that we still have people in the U.S.A. so completely blinded by the color of a persons skin.

I am a white man 45 yrs. old working in the auto industry. I was born and raised on the farm most of my younger days. I went to school in many different schools and communities and there were only one or two colored children in my classes. I learned, if I treated these children as equals and was friendly with them, most times they were very nice to me also.

Now as I go through life I have made friends with a few colored people, and even though they are not always perfect I realize I also have many white friends that are not perfect.

I am aware that the Colored people have been held down, and have not had the opportunities to work and earn decent wages to feed, cloth, and educate their children.

With equal opportunity in all walks of life, I am sure you people will do very well, and be a credit to our country.

I want mainly to say - I know at times you must feel very lonely, and possibly at times have doubts about whether or not you are doing the right thing, I think you are.

I am glad, and I am sure your people are also, that we have people like you, with the necessary great courage to face the great trying experiences you have gone through, and will continue to face for a long time to come.

I think the Kennedy administration has done very well, and will continue to help the colored people to get equal opportunity.

I have been in Mississippi two different times, and I felt the colored people were still being used, almost like slaves and it is shameful, that ^{some} Christian people, want it that way.

My wife and I have two ^{and one daughter} grown sons, one is in the army in Germany, the other married here in Ohio, we have tried to train them, to have the courage of their convictions, as you have.

I hope this letter will give you comfort and more courage, and may, God Bless you, and help and guide you always.

With great respect and love, I am, Robert V. Sherer

From - Robert V. Sherer
1202 Alpine Drive
Sandusky, Ohio

I would certainly appreciate even a short
reply in the stamped, self addressed envelope.

I will also know then that the letter was not destroyed.

Mailed in said envelope.

Thanks a lot.

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